

REMARKS

Applicant notes that all amendments and cancellations of Claims presented herein are made without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments or rejections, and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG),¹ and without waiving the right to prosecute the amended or cancelled Claims (or similar Claims) in the future. None of the claim amendments made herein are intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended claims within the meaning of *Festo Corp. v. Shokestu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 234 F.3d 558, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000) or related cases.

Claims 1-2, 7-11 and 18-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 4 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants thank the Examiner for his telephone call to discuss patentable subject matter. Applicants have amended the claims according to the Examiner's suggestions.

It is respectfully submitted that the invention as claimed fully meets all requirements and that the claims are worthy of allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at (608) 218-6900.

Respectfully submitted

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¹ 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (Sept. 8, 2000).